based on simultaneous application of local value added content, change in tariff classification (change at 4-digit or 6-digit ITC Harmonised System level), and detailed non-qualifying operations.

Reconsideration of SEZ scheme

†3693 SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the protests against setting up of Special Economic Zones in the country particularly in Nandigram in West Bengal, reconsideration has been proposed in this regard;

(b) if so, the details of the rules formulated thereof; and

(c) the provisions made to take complete care of farmers' interests in Special Economic Zones in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Various issues concerning the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) including issues relating to land acquisition for SEZs have been considered by the Government and it has been decided that pending applications for SEZs may be processed for in principle & formal approvals and notifications subject to the condition that the State Governments would .not undertake any compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs. Further, it has been decided to fix the upper limit of the area required for multi product SEZs at 5000 hectares with the provision that the State Governments may prescribe a lower limit and to fix the minimum processing area limit uniformly at 50% for multi product SEZs as well as sector specific SEZs. Further the Ministry of Rural Development has been requested to reformulate a comprehensive Land Acquisition Act to address all relevant issues and also to work out a comprehensive Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy ensuring livelihood from the project to at least one person from each displaced family.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.